



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11147



Introduced by
HON. ATTY. GERVILLE “JINKY BITRICS” R. LUISTRO

AN ACT
PENALIZING SELECTIVE, DISCRETIONARY, AND DISCRIMINATORY ACTS
IN THE DELIVERY OF CASH, LIVELIHOOD, OR RELIEF ASSISTANCE
PROGRAMS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS

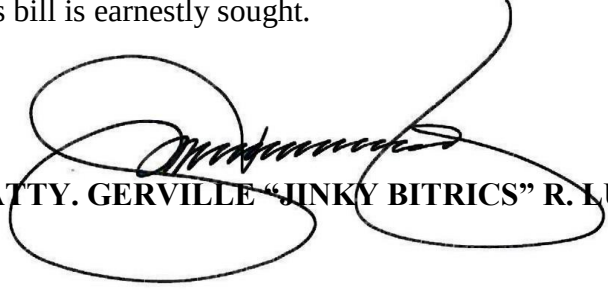
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that public office is a public trust, requiring that public officers and employees remain accountable to the people at all times, and serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency. This aligns with the State’s overarching goals of promoting a just and dynamic social order, eradicating poverty, and enhancing the quality of life through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, and raise living standards—all of which must be pursued in accordance with the principles of transparency and accountability.

Despite these constitutional provisions, instances have arisen where local government officials have prioritized and selected recipients of assistance programs based on personal or partisan considerations. The proponents assert that such conduct directly contravenes the fundamental principles of accountability and transparency that should govern public service.

Accordingly, this legislative proposal seeks to penalize the selective, discretionary, and/or discriminatory actions of elected local government officials in the execution of, or in relation to, the official disbursement of cash grants, food assistance, livelihood support, relief packages, and other similar programs within their respective jurisdictions.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a just and dynamic social order through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all. To this end, local governments are entrusted with powers and functions related to the delivery of social services while keeping with the principles of transparency and accountability in the use of public funds and the Constitutional precept that public office is a public trust.

SECTION 2. *Objective.* - This Act aims to penalize selective, discretionary, and/or discriminatory acts of elective incumbent local government officials in the performance of or in connection to the official delivery of cash grants, food stubs, livelihood or relief packages, and other assistance programs of local government units (LGUs) to their individual constituents or household beneficiaries within their respective territorial jurisdictions.

SECTION 3. *Prohibited Acts and Corresponding Penalties.* –

- (a) Any incumbent elective barangay, municipal, city, or provincial government official, whether acting in conspiracy with private persons or not, who by act or omission, directly or indirectly:
- (1) delivers or aids in the delivery of cash grants, food stubs, livelihood or relief packages, or other assistance programs of LGUs to persons other than those qualified to receive such assistance programs; or,
 - (2) gives priority to or directs another to prioritize their relatives by affinity or consanguinity within the third degree, or other persons who, while qualified to receive the assistance program of the LGU, were prioritized in the delivery thereof not in accordance with the official delivery schedule of the LGU, taking into account the purpose, scope, and target demographic of the same; or
 - (3) discriminates in any way against individual constituents or household beneficiaries entitled to receive assistance programs from their respective LGUs.
- (b) The commission of any of the foregoing shall be punished, upon a finding of guilt by a court of competent jurisdiction, by imprisonment ranging from imprisonment ranging from six (6) months to one (1) year, as determined by the court, and perpetual disqualification from holding public office.

SECTION 4. *Implementing Agency.* - The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall be the implementing agency of this Act. The DILG may, from time to time, call on any other concerned agencies or sectors, as it may deem necessary, to assist in carrying out its responsibilities under this Act.

SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,